

*Department of State*

# TELEGRAM

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AN: 0790422-1274

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PAGE 01  
ACTION NEA-11

KABUL 06913 161387Z

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ADS-00 SY-05 SYE-00 MCT-02  
UCSS-00 A-02 OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PH-06 H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 OCS-06 CA-01  
ED-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 FBO-05 OMB-01  
CR-04 ACDA-12 ANAE-00 /126 H

-----007779 161846Z /42

**Q P 161235Z 8EP 79**

FM AMEMBASSY KARUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5625

INFO AMEMBASSY ALEXANDRIA PRIORITY

EMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY

~~AMEMBASSY~~ DACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
COMMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY  
CINCPAC PRIORITY  
CINCEUR PRIORITY

**C O N F I D E N T I A L EASJL 6918**

DEPT ALSO FOR A/SY/CC; KARACHI FOR MSS' : :G.DAT AM. : :W.T.M  
ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: GOS 9-16-05 (PLATIN, DEPT A.) 10.0

TAGS: PINS, ABEC, CAEC, NCP, W

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KABUL 06918 161818Z

SUNJI (LOW) TENSION APPROXIMATE HIGH IN CASE: 5/10/80 01

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5. A CANADIAN TOURIST WAS "ARRESTED" ON SEPTEMBER 16 BY YOUNG MEN FROM AN ORGANIZATION THEY DESCRIBED AS THE "PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY". HE WAS TAKEN TO A [ILLEG] AND HELD FOR A SHORT TIME FOR INTERROGATION UNTIL AN APPARENT LEADER OF THE ORGANIZATION, A MAN ABOUT 15 YEARS OF AGE, WEARING AN IMMACULATE WHITE GARMENT, ARRIVED AND DECIDED HIS RELEASE.

6. COMMERCIAL AIR ACTIVITY AT KABUL ALMOST WAS [ILLEG] TODAY. A LARGE NUMBER OF MILITARY HELICOPTERS [2 WORDS ILLEG] EASTWARD THIS MORNING, BUT HAVE NOT YET [ILLEG] AT LEAST OVER KABUL'S SKIES.

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REF: KABUL 6881

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. AS OF 1700, KABUL TIME, SEPTEMBER 16, KHALOJ FORCES IN THE ARG PALACE ("HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE") AND RADIO KABUL COMPLEX REMAIN ON ALERT. T-62 TANKS CONTINUE TO COVER THE THREE ROADS WHICH BORDER THE EMBASSY ON THE SOUTH, EAST, AND WEST. FORCES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM OTHER AREAS OF THE CITY, HOWEVER.

3. THERE WAS FOR A TIME THIS AFTERNOON SOME DIFFICULTY IN DRIVING INTO THE WAZIR AKBAR KHAN MENA DISTRICT, IN WHICH THE EMBASSY IS LOCATED. THIS WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE POLICE WERE CLEARING THE AREA FOR A HUGE CONVOY OF ABOUT 90 VEHICLES WHICH WAS LATER SEEN MOVING TOWARD MIKROYAN. WE ARE STILL CHECKING ON THE PURPOSE FOR THIS MOVEMENT.

4. RUMORS ABOUND IN KABUL THAT: TARAKI IS WOUNDED -- OR DEAD; FORMER POLICE COMMANDANT -- AND TARAKI LOYALIST -- SAYED DAUD TAROON WAS KILLED ON SEPTEMBER 14; DEPOSED INTERIOR MINISTER MOHO. ASLAM WATANJAR EITHER "SKIPPED" ON SEPTEMBER 14 AND IS STILL AT LARGE -- OR THAT HE SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE SOVIET (OR AMERICAN) EMBASSY COMPOUND; FORMER FRONTIER MINISTER SHER JAN MAZDOORYAR AND FORMER AGSA CHIEF ASAQULLAH HAVE BEEN KILLED; FORMER COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER SAYED MOHO. GULABZOI IS STILL AT LARGE. THIS EMBASSY HAS, AT THIS TIME, ABSOLUTELY NO WAY TO CONFIRM OR REFUTE THESE RUMORS. WE CAN ONLY NOTE THAT THEY ARE VERY WIDESPREAD.

5. A CANADIAN TOURIST WAS "ARRESTED" ON SEPTEMBER 16 BY  
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KABUL 06918 161227Z

YOUNG MEN FROM AN ORGANIZATION THEY DESCRIBED AS THE "PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY". HE WAS TAKEN TO A WHITE AND HELD FOR A SHORT TIME FOR INTERROGATION. AN APPARENT LEADER OF THE ORGANIZATION, A MAN ABOUT 35 YEARS OF AGE, WEARING AN IMMACULATE WHITE GARMENT, ARRIVED AND REMAINED WITH HIM.

6. COMMERCIAL AIR ACTIVITY AT KABUL AIRPORT WAS NORMAL TODAY. A LARGE NUMBER OF MILITARY PLANEs FLEW EASTWARD THIS MORNING, BUT HAVE NOT YET DEPARTED -- AT LEAST OVER KABUL'S SKIES.

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7. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT STILL IS NOT CLEAR WHY THE KHALQIS ARE REMAINING SO ALERT, THEY ARE EVIDENTLY WAITING FOR AN EXPECTED SHOE TO DROP. THE MOST PROBABLE EXPLANATION IS THAT THE REMAINING CIVILIAN LEADERSHIP STILL ANTICIPATES SOME TYPE OF MILITARY REACTION TO THE SEPTEMBER 14 PURGING OF THE LAST MILITARY OFFICERS FROM THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. AMSTUTZ

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